

Possible Additions to the May 24, 2016 agenda:

1. Support for County Urban Agriculture Legislation
2. Request from Junior Tennis Champions Center for funding

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
SITTING AS THE DISTRICT COUNCIL
2016 Legislative Session

Bill No. _____ CB- -2016
 Chapter No. _____
 Proposed and Presented by _____ Council Members Lehman and Glaros
 Introduced by _____
 Co-Sponsors _____
 Date of Introduction _____

ZONING BILL

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 Urban Farms

3 For the purpose of amending the definition and zoning categories for Urban Farms

4 BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

5 Sections 27-107.01 and 27-441,

6 The Zoning Ordinance of Prince George's County, Maryland,

7 being also

8 SUBTITLE 27. ZONING.

9 The Prince George's County Code

10 (2011 Edition; 2014 Supplement).

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
 12 Maryland, sitting as the District Council for that part of the Maryland-Washington Regional
 13 District in Prince George's County, Maryland, that Sections 27-107.01 and 27-441 of the Zoning
 14 Ordinance of Prince George's County, Maryland, being also Subtitle 27 of the Prince George's
 15 County Code, be and the same are hereby repealed and reenacted with the following
 16 amendments:

SUBTITLE 27. ZONING.

PART 2. GENERAL.

DIVISION 1. DEFINITIONS.

Sec. 27-107.01. Definitions.

* * * * *

(243.8) **Urban Farm:** A use that permits [a non-profit organization] an organization or individual to cultivate fruits, vegetables, flowers, that permits composting, beekeeping, agricultural education and incidental sales on the property, and excludes livestock. However, a Health Department permit is required if fruits and vegetables are cut up or prepared foods are sold to the public. The organization or individual operating an urban farm shall be a cooperator with the Prince George's Soil Conservation District, and operate under an approved Farm Management Plan. Accessory structures ordinarily found in association with an Urban Farm are permitted. The appearance and scale of all accessory structures shall be in compliance with the existing requirements of the zone. Off-street parking and loading requirements in Part II and Landscape Manual regulations do not apply to an Urban Farm.

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SUBTITLE 27. ZONING.
PART 5. GENERAL.
DIVISION 3. USES PERMITTED

Sec. 27-441. Uses permitted.

(b) TABLE OF USES.

USE	ZONE								
	R-O-S	O-S	R-A	R-E	R-R	R-80	R-55	R-35	R-20
(7) Resource Production/Recovery:									
* * * * *	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
(F) Urban Farm	[X]P	[X]P	[X]P	[X]P	[X]P	[X]P ¹⁰⁹	[X]P ¹⁰⁹	X	X
* * * * *	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

USE	ZONE							
	R-T	R-30	R-30C	R-18	R-18C	R-10A	R-10	R-H
(1) COMMERCIAL:								
(7) Resource Production/Recovery:								
* * * * *	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
(F) Urban Farm	X	X	X	P ⁹⁷	X	X	X	X
* * * * *	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

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97	Permitted use only where a municipality indicates approval to operate such use on the property, and the extent of the use on the property does not exceed a maximum of five (5) acres in size. The Urban Farm shall not allow noxious odors or dust to drift off the premises. The applicant shall be required to obtain a Health Department permit if fruits and vegetables are cut up or prepared foods are being sold to the public. [The Urban Farm will not be subject to the sections of Subtitle 27 as listed below or the Landscape Manual:																		
	(A) Exempt from the Landscape Manual regulations;																		
	(B) Exempt from Part 11, the parking and loading requirements; <u>and</u>																		
	(C) Accessory structures are permitted; and																		
	(D)] Signage shall be limited to way finding and directional signs.																		
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109	<u>Provided:</u>																		
	(A) <u>If the subject property is within a municipality, the use is only permitted if the municipality has indicated approval through a letter or resolution;</u>																		

- (B) The use shall not cause noxious odors or dust to drift off the premises;
- (C) Onsite signage shall be limited to one identification sign not exceeding sixty (60) square inches in area. Interpretative signs educating attendees about urban farming are allowed on the property.
- (D) The use must be maintained in an orderly manner, including litter removal, irrigation, pest control, and removal of dead or diseased plant materials. All garbage must be removed from the site weekly.
- (E) Garbage and compost receptacles at an urban farm shall be screened from the street and adjacent properties by utilizing landscaping, fencing, or storage within structures;
- (F) The use shall be required to obtain all necessary permits as applicable, including for accessory structures and signage, and
- (G) Notwithstanding Section 27-107.01 (243.8), incidental sales are not permitted onsite; however, customers subscribed to a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program managed by the farm are allowed to pick up their weekly share of produce from the urban farm property.

1 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Ordinance shall take effect forty-five
2 (45) calendar days after its adoption.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2015.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S
COUNTY, MARYLAND, SITTING AS THE
DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THAT PART OF
THE MARYLAND-WASHINGTON REGIONAL
DISTRICT IN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY,
MARYLAND

BY: _____
Derrick Leon Davis
Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council

KEY:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.

[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.

Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.

CB-25-2016: Promoting Urban Agriculture in Prince George's County

Prince George's County currently offers a tax credit for urban farming, but the county's zoning code doesn't permit urban farming in residential zones, even though general agriculture (rural farming) is already permitted in some of the larger residential zones. By broadening the definition of an urban farm to allow any organization or individual to participate in urban farming, and permitting urban agriculture in a limited number of residential zones, this legislation would enable more urban farmers to access the county's tax credit. This financial incentive can be critical to urban farmers in their startup years.

The legislation also expands urban farming opportunities into the R-80 and R-55 residential zones under strict criteria, further ensuring access to fresh food and the land to grow it is available directly in our communities.

Benefits to Prince George's County

Food access: 1 in 6 Prince Georgians lack proper access to enough nutritious food, leading to high rates of diabetes, obesity, and heart disease. The US Department of Agriculture has declared parts of Prince George's County a food desert. Urban agriculture is an important tool to providing farm fresh foods in underserved neighborhoods, and helps promote healthy eating.

Economic Development: Every new urban farm created can be thought of as adding new small business to the county's economy. These farms generate income for farmers, create local jobs for Prince George's County residents, and generate tax revenue for local government.

Environmental Benefits: Urban farming eliminates long-distance transportation of food, reducing energy consumption and its associated negative air quality impacts. Further, it can help preserve green spaces from development by ensuring they are economically productive.

Education and Community Building: Engagement in food production empowers residents who grow food for themselves, and brings communities closer together. This can help revitalize neighborhoods, teach our youth entrepreneurial skills, and provide for greater awareness of the health and environmental benefits of local food.

Ensuring Quality Farms

Recognizing that urban farming must be of high quality to thrive in residential communities, CB-25 requires all urban farms to cooperate with the Prince George's Soil Conservation District and operate under an approved farm management plan. This provision helps ensure farmers will be successful while minimizing the potential for any public nuisance. If the property is within a municipality, a letter of support from the municipality is required.

In addition to a farm management plan and municipal support, there are requirements that a farm be properly maintained, including litter removal, irrigation, pest control, and compliance with the county code for any permits or accessory structures onsite. Finally, urban farms cannot have livestock or chickens, a necessary compromise to prevent complaints from neighbors.



Proposal for Partnership between Junior Tennis Champions Center and the City of College Park

The Junior Tennis Champions Center (JTCC), a nonprofit organization located in College Park, seeks to establish a partnership to increase community tennis participation in College Park. Tennis is a wonderful vehicle to bring the community together and encourage healthy interaction. Tennis is a sport for all ages and levels of ability, and provides a good physical workout.

JTCC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, committed to transforming people's lives through tennis by offering a comprehensive pathway for all players. JTCC's mission is to grow the game at every level and create a lifetime sport for all people.

JTCC was selected by the United States Tennis Association (USTA) as the first Regional Training Center for its high performance program, and JTCC's facility was selected as 2013 USTA Facility of the Year. JTCC is proud to be considered the premier tennis facility in the metropolitan area, offering a 32-court tennis facility featuring indoor, outdoor, hard, red and green clay courts. The club is equipped with a complete fitness complex, including a speed and agility center and yoga studio, with personal trainers on site.

As a partner of JTCC, the City of College Park will receive benefits outlined below:

JTCC will provide to College Park Residents:

Community Tennis Involvement

- Five free group lessons for adults and juniors.
- 25% off membership dues.
- 25% off of paid lessons following the five free group lessons.
- Free instruction to students in elementary schools in College Park.

- Will continue to support The College Park City-University Partnership (“CPCUP”) Home Ownership Program by offering a free six month membership to participants.
- Each year JTCC hosts a **free** Tennis Festival that is open to children ages 5 to 12 of all skill levels. The event is held annually in May. No tennis experience necessary and the festival is held rain or shine. All participants receive one free day of summer camp, and twenty five of the most promising players will receive two free weeks of summer camp at JTCC. College Park residents should sign up at <http://www.jtcc.org/events/festival/> or email festival@jtcc.org for more information.
- JTCC will host family tennis festivals six times a year for only College Park residents. Each festival will take place on a weekend for two hours.

Signage

- Signage at College Park Tennis Club year round
- Extra signage during the annual Tennis Festival event
- Name/logo identification in club marketing material
- Yearly Corporate Club Membership for City Council and City Management

Term

The proposed term of this agreement is one year commencing on July 15, 2016 and ending on May 31, 2017 with the intention to extend if both parties are satisfied with the relationship.

The City of College Park will provide:

In consideration of the benefits listed above, the City of College Park will make a contribution of \$10,000 to JTCC. The contribution is due in two equal installments on or before July 15, 2016 and January 15, 2017.